Production of alcohol out of molasses

1887. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that. some developing courtries like Brazl are using molasses to produce alcoho' used as automobile fuel which does not cause any pollution;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to adopt this technology in our couatry;

(c) whether Govt. have received any proposal from any industry for this project; and

(d) if not, whether Government would suppor this technology to avoid hortage of fuel and conceive foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : (a) A few countries including Brazil have been using alcohol ES an automobile fuel.

(b) to (d) It has been established that upto 3 per cent of me hanol and 5 per cent of ethyl alcohol (ethano) can be blended with petrol and used in vehicles without any modification of the carburettor of the engine. Simiarly, ethanol or me henot can be used as a dual fuel with diesel by using adiditional equipment such as fuel tantse, pumps etc., which could be retrofitted to the existing vehicles. While several tests and trials have been conduded and some are continuing, the commercial use o? alcohol (methanol/ ehano') as automotive fuel will depend on the sustained availability of surplus alcohol and on its techno-economic viabi-lity.

1888. *(Transferrs to 14th May,* 1993).

Hypothetical exchange rates of drugs

1889. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the PR7ME MINISTER be pleaded to refer to answer to UnStarred Question 376 given in 'he Rajya Sabha on 25-2-1993 and state:

(a) the reason,, due to which formula tion prices were based on Rs. 4364.21 per kg. when the actual landed cost of import of Carbarnezeplne was Rs. 2900 and Rs. 3300 per kg. during 1990-91 and 1991-92, respectively;

(b) whether it is a fact that landed cost of import of Rs. 4364.21 per kg. is not bred on the actual import price of 1990 91, 1991-92 or even 1992-93;

(c) whether it is ako a fact that benefit of crores of rupees has been given to the formulators due to active support and connivance of the concerned because of the wrong application of DPCO, 1987; and

(d) what are the name,, of other druos where such adjustments have been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (b) and (d) The price of Rs. 4364.21 per kg. of Carbamazepine was arrived at on the basis of weighted average c.i.f. price for 1990 91 duly adjusted for fluctuations in the exchange rate and after adding countervailing duty End Custrom du'y as per then prevailing rates. In the case of other irnported bulk drugs also the came approach was being followed. (c) No, Sir.